

## **APPENDIX 2 WARNING**

- PRIMARY AGENCIES:** Washington State Military Department  
Emergency Management Division  
Department of Information Services (Cyber incident only)
- SUPPORT AGENCIES:** Washington State Department Ecology  
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Washington State Military Department  
National Guard  
Washington State Department of Natural Resources  
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission  
Washington State Patrol  
Washington State Department of Transportation  
Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission  
Department of Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness and  
Response Directorate (FEMA)  
Telecommunications Network Service Providers  
Local Jurisdiction Emergency Management Organizations

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Purpose**

To provide guidance for rapid alerting and warning to key state and local jurisdiction officials and the general public of an impending or occurring natural, technological, or terrorism emergency or disaster.

#### **B. Scope**

See Emergency Support Function (ESF) 2, Telecommunications/Information Systems and Warning.

### **II. POLICIES**

See ESF 2, Telecommunications/Information Systems and Warning.

### **III. SITUATION**

#### **A. Emergency/Disaster Conditions and Hazards**

See ESF 2, Telecommunications/Information Systems and Warning.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

See ESF 2, Telecommunications/Information Systems and Warning.

## IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

### A. General

1. Emergency or disaster warnings may originate from any level of government or other sources. However, most forecasting resources are located within the federal government, and may include watches and warnings for: floods, seismic sea wave or tsunami, avalanches, severe weather, volcanic unrest, fixed nuclear facility incidents, hazardous material incidents, earthquake occurrence notification, terrorism, and cyber incidents.
2. This notification may come from the National Weather Service (National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)), the National Warning System (NAWAS), the National Earthquake Information Center (NEIC), the Alaska and Pacific Tsunami Warning Centers, the United States Geologic Services Cascades Volcano Observatory (CVO), the amateur radio community, Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), or the general public.
3. The National Warning System (NAWAS), established by the federal government primarily for disseminating warnings concerning possible threats of an attack to the nation is the primary means of disseminating initial alert notification information to state and local jurisdiction officials within the state. The federal government has permitted and encourages each state to employ NAWAS for disseminating warnings concerning the above hazards. The state portion of the NAWAS consists of the State Warning Point (Primary and Alternate) and 31 primary local warning points. The State Warning Point is operated 24-hours a day by the Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division (EMD) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP) dispatch, Yakima. Federal requirements designate the state EMD as the Primary Warning Point and the WSP as the Alternate Warning Point.
4. Additional state communications capabilities that may be used for warning include: A Central Computerized Enforcement Service System (ACCESS) which is a law enforcement teletype system; a low-band FM radio system for backup direction and control known as Comprehensive Emergency Management Network (CEMNET), commercial telephone, and amateur radio.
5. Responsible state and local jurisdiction officials may consider and decide whether to utilize the local jurisdiction and state Emergency Alert System (EAS) to warn the general public in special situations.
6. Local jurisdictions will utilize all warning systems that are available to alert local jurisdiction officials and the affected populace. This may include public safety radio, sirens, highway reader boards, paging devices, door-to-door, and broadcast media.

7. The process of receiving warning information at the state primary or alternate warning points, and then disseminating this information to all local jurisdiction officials is referred to as the Statewide Warning Fan-out.
8. Cyber incidents are reported through the Washington Computer Incident Reporting Center (WACIRC) either on-line or telephonically. WACIRC, a cooperative effort among state agencies and local governments, collects, evaluates, and disseminates information related to network-based security risks in order to defend state government's information technology infrastructure.

**B. Organization**

See ESF 2, Telecommunications/Information Systems and Warning.

**C. Procedures**

See ESF 2, Telecommunications/Information Systems and Warning.

**D. Mitigation Activities**

**1. Primary Agency**

None.

**2. Support Agencies**

None.

**E. Preparedness Activities**

**1. Primary Agencies**

**a. Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division**

- (1) Controls, operates 24-hours a day, and maintains the state portion of NAWAS.
- (2) Operates and maintains the Primary State Warning Point during normal business hours and when the EOC is activated.
- (3) Tests and maintains the state warning systems and the EOC Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for alert and warning.
- (4) Assists local jurisdictions with the development, establishment, testing and maintenance of local jurisdiction alert and warning plans, procedures, and systems.

- (5) Coordinates DHS Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate (FEMA) assistance for alert and warning system planning and development.
  - (6) Provides detailed instructions and training to appropriate state and local jurisdiction Warning Point personnel and, as required, to the personnel of other state and federal agencies for the purpose of developing a rapid warning capability.
  - (7) Determines, plans, and coordinates the use of alternate means of disseminating warning information.
  - (8) Maintains in the State Emergency Operations Officer SOP and EAS PC, current pre-scripted county EAS messages in support of specific hazardous material events that may occur from Energy Northwest, Columbia Generating Station; U.S. Department of Energy-Richland Operations; and Umatilla Chemical Depot.
  - (9) Be prepared to issue EAS messages regionally or statewide as needed and directed by the Governor or Governor's designated authority. Be prepared to issue pre-scripted and/or prearranged EAS messages in support of specific hazardous material and/or other events as requested by local authorities.
- b. Department of Information Services (DIS)
- (1) Maintains the state government telecommunication and information technology infrastructure.
  - (2) Develops and tests disaster recovery and continuity of operations plans.
  - (3) Coordinates with WACIRC members to improve the state's ability to deal with cyber-related incidents.
  - (4) Trains DIS personnel to augment the state's EOC ESF2 cell.

## 2. Support Agencies

- a.
- Washington State Department Ecology
  - Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
  - Washington State Military Department
  - National Guard
  - Washington State Department of Natural Resources
  - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
  - Washington State Patrol
  - Washington State Department of Transportation
  - Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission

**Department of Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness  
and Response Directorate (FEMA)  
Telecommunications Network Service Providers  
Local Jurisdiction Emergency Management Organizations**

- (1) Prepares to provide assistance and support, as may be requested or required.
- (2) Prepares, through testing of internal procedures, to receive and disseminate alert and warning information within the respective agency.

**b. Utilities and Transportation Commission**

- (1) Trains UTC personnel to augment the state EOC ESF2 cell.

**c. Washington State Patrol**

- (1) Operates the Alternate State Warning Point, in accordance with the procedures in the NAWAS Operations Handbook, or when designated by the state EMD during an emergency or disaster.
- (2) Maintains specific communications and warning capabilities as appropriate and agreed upon with state EMD.
- (3) Maintains the state EAS relay network.

**d. Department of Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness  
and Response Directorate (FEMA)**

Provides and supports the NAWAS which includes lines and equipment to ensure rapid dissemination of warnings.

**e. Local Jurisdiction Emergency Management Organizations**

- (1) Primary Warning Point
  - (a) Determines methods of conveying warning to citizens.
  - (b) Prepares, maintains, and exercises warning plans, SOPs, and call lists.
  - (c) Trains all personnel staffing a warning point in the reception and dissemination of warning information.
  - (d) Tests local jurisdiction warning fan-out devices.
  - (e) Maintains warning point records.

- (f) Maintains a continuing record of the status of the warning system and advises the local jurisdiction emergency management director of any deficiencies.
- (2) Secondary or Tertiary Warning Points
  - (a) Responds to state tests of the warning network in accordance with the Statewide Warning Fan-out.
  - (b) Trains personnel in the receipt and dissemination of warning information.
  - (c) Tests local jurisdiction procedures and warning systems.
  - (d) Maintains a continuing record of the status of local jurisdiction warning systems and advises the local jurisdiction emergency management director of any deficiencies.

## **F. Response Activities**

### **1. Primary Agencies**

#### **a. Military Department, Emergency Management Division**

- (1) Receives and disseminates, on a 24-hour basis, warning information statewide and locally at the request of the local jurisdiction.
- (2) Activates and issues EAS messages as requested by the Governor or Governor's designated authority. Issues EAS messages, as a back-up for local jurisdictions, upon request of designated local authority.
- (3) Provides for the receipt and dissemination of warning information at the Primary and Alternate State Warning Points using state EMD and WSP operators.
- (4) The state EMD State Emergency Operations Officer:
  - (a) Verifies warning dissemination to all warning points.
  - (b) Initiates state agency call-out and internal fan-out to alert key EOC staff.
  - (c) Activates the state EOC, if required, upon receipt of a warning of an impending emergency or disaster.
  - (d) Provides a status report to the Director or EOC Supervisor for the state EMD.

- (e) Notifies state agencies and other appropriate organizations.
  - (f) Coordinates the use of back-up state communications systems for warning as necessary.
  - (g) When requested by local authorities, issues pre-scripted EAS messages for Columbia Generating Station, USDOE-RL, Umatilla Chemical Depot, or other prearranged events. For other events, as requested by local authorities, the Governor, or Governor's designated authority, issues EAS messages as needed.
  - (h) Continues disseminating warning information until such time as the threat is passed.
- b. Department of Information Services
- (1) Coordinate with WACIRC to ensure cyber incident reporting occurs in accordance with WACIRC procedures.
  - (2) Engage EMD if cyber incident has implications for major impact on government operations, the state's economy, or citizens.

## 2. Support Agencies

- a. **Departments of Ecology, Fish and Wildlife, Military Department - National Guard, Natural Resources, Transportation, Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Utilities and Transportation Commission**
- (1) Makes internal dissemination of warning information when received.
  - (2) Assists, if possible, in relaying warning information when necessary.
  - (3) Provides access to respective networks for warning and communications purposes, or operators and staff to support state EOC operations as may be requested and required.
- b. **Washington State Patrol**
- (1) Supports the state EMD in the use of alternative means such as ACCESS and the EAS radio relay network to disseminate warning information.
  - (2) Operates the State Warning Point as required.

- (3) Disseminates warning information in coordination with the state EOC Duty Officer, and operates the State Warning Point until relieved by the state EMD, if requested.

**c. Federal Government**

- (1) National Warning Center

Operates, directs and controls NAWAS except when emergency or disaster situations exist only in Washington State.

- (2) National Earthquake Information Center

Issues seismic activity advisories and confirmations.

- (3) National Weather Service

Issues forecasts and weather related watches or warnings.

- (4) Tsunami Warning Centers

Issues tsunami reports, watches, and warnings.

- (5) United States Forest Service, US Park Service, United States Geological Survey, and DHS EP&R

Issues volcanic and seismic activity or eruption advisories and warnings.

**d. Local Jurisdiction Emergency Management Organizations**

- (1) Primary Warning Point

- (a) Receives and disseminates warning information to local jurisdiction officials whom they support and to the public, as required.

- (b) Disseminates warning information to secondary warning points.

- (c) Responds to state and federal tests of NAWAS.

- (2) Secondary or Tertiary Warning Points

- (a) Receives and disseminates warning information to local jurisdiction officials whom they support and to the public, as required.



- (b) Disseminates warning information to designated tertiary warning points as indicated in the statewide fan-out.

**G. Recovery Activities**

**All Agencies**

1. Use primary and alternate warning systems to coordinate recovery activities.
2. Restores warning systems and facilities.

**V. RESPONSIBILITIES**

**A. Primary Agency**

**Military Department, Emergency Management Division**

See ESF 2, Telecommunications/Information Systems and Warning.

**B. Support Agencies**

**Departments of Ecology, Fish and Wildlife, General Administration, Military Department - National Guard, Natural Resources, Washington State Patrol, Transportation, Parks and Recreation Commission, Utilities and Transportation Commission, Department of Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Telecommunications Network Service Providers, and the Local Jurisdiction Emergency Management Organizations**

See ESF 2, Telecommunications/Information Systems and Warning.

**VI. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS**

See ESF 2, Telecommunications/Information Systems and Warning.

**VII. REFERENCES**

See ESF 2, Telecommunications/Information Systems and Warning.

**VIII. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS**

See Appendix 4, Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, Definitions.